Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program

Worker Health and Safety Branch

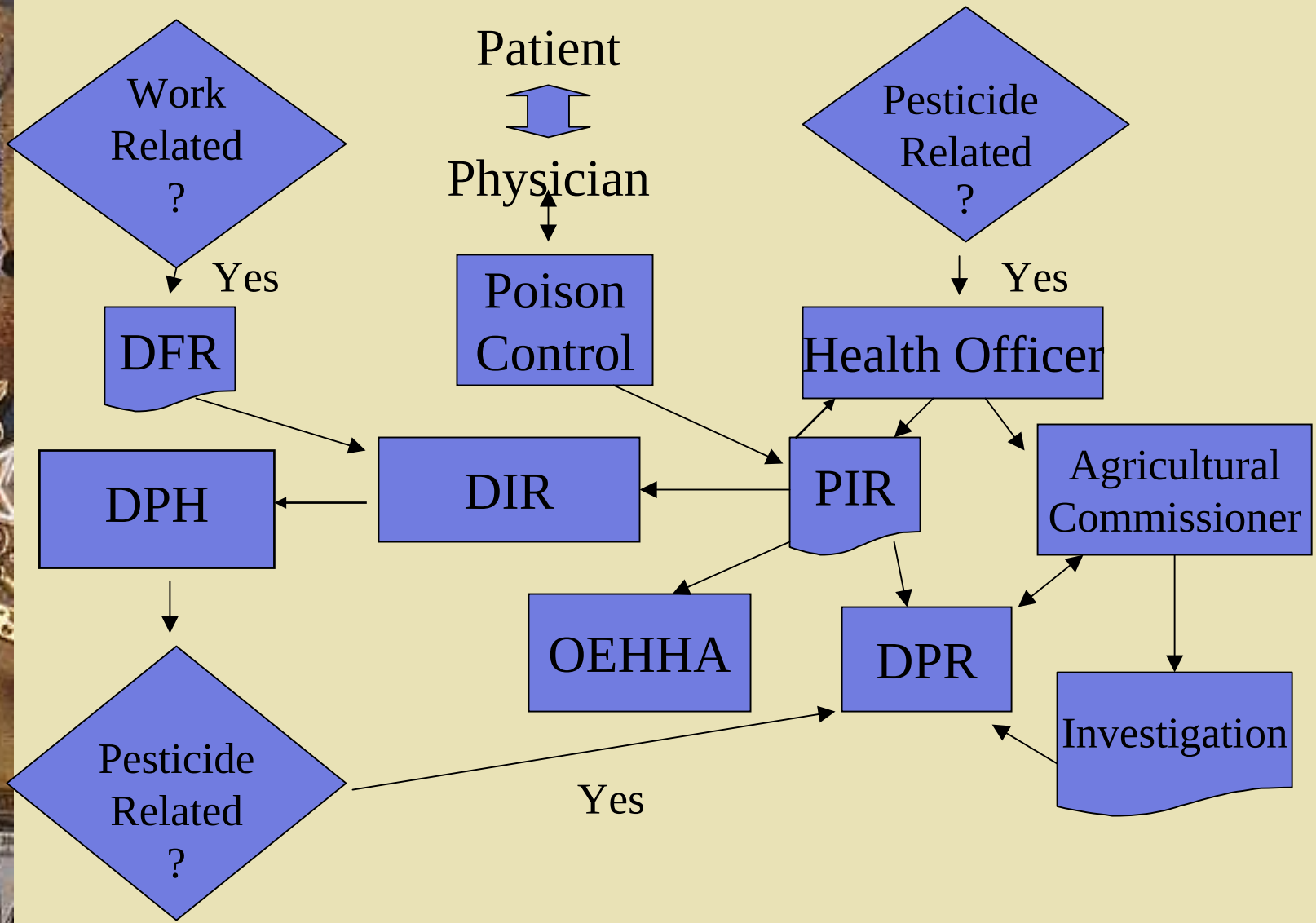
Department of Pesticide Regulation

California EPA

Health and Safety Code Section 105200

"Any physician and surgeon who knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, that a patient is suffering from pesticide poisoning or any disease or condition caused by a pesticide shall promptly report that fact to the local health officer by telephone within 24 hours…"

Program Structure and Function



Data Collection

- PISP scientists abstract data into dozens of standardized database variables to represent each investigation.
- Scientists also enter text descriptions of exposure circumstances and effects.
- We maintain accuracy and consistency by manual and automated reviews.

What Do We Do With the Data?

- Identify emerging problems
- Produce standard reports
- Respond to inquiries
  - From industry and advocacy groups
  - From other regulatory agencies
  - From within DPR
    - Records on products, uses, or other criteria
    - Any medical question

New Directions

- Data analysis
- Outreach
- Strengthen case identification

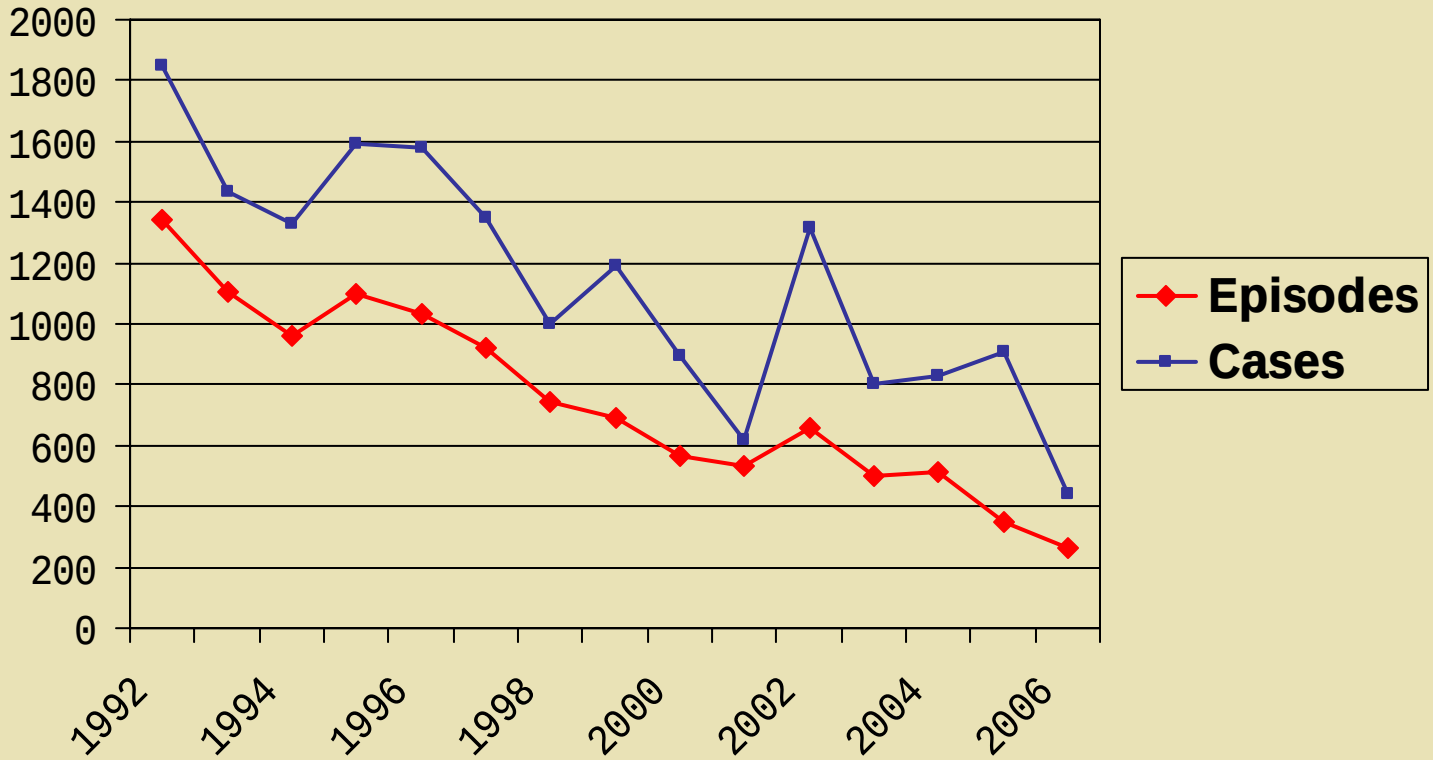
New Directions

- Data analysis
  - General review
  - Areas of concern: field workers

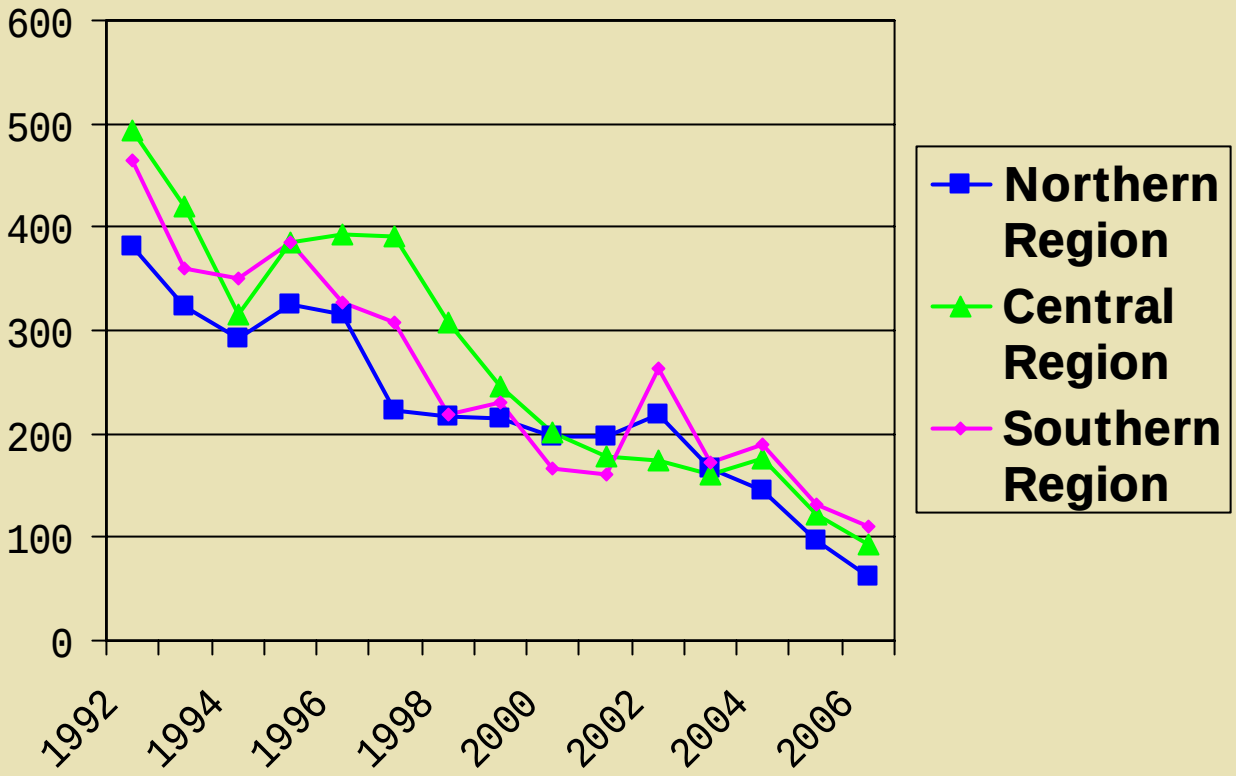
Field Work Residue Exposures

	1984 - 1988		1999 - 2003	
Total Cases	1519		339	
Contributory Violations	201	(13%)	147	(43%)
Major Crops				
Grapes	834	(55%)	183	(54%)
Oranges	163	(11%)	35	(10%)
Cotton	78	(5%)	18	(5%)
Major Pesticides				
Propargite	295	(19.4%)	1	(0.29)
Sulfur	257	(17%)	51	(15%)
Methomyl	67	(4.4%)	0	
Combinations	494	(33%)	228	(67%)

Definite, Probable and Possible PISP Cases and Episodes, 1992 - 2006



Episodes of One or More Definite, Probable or Possible Pesticide Cases, 1992 – 2006



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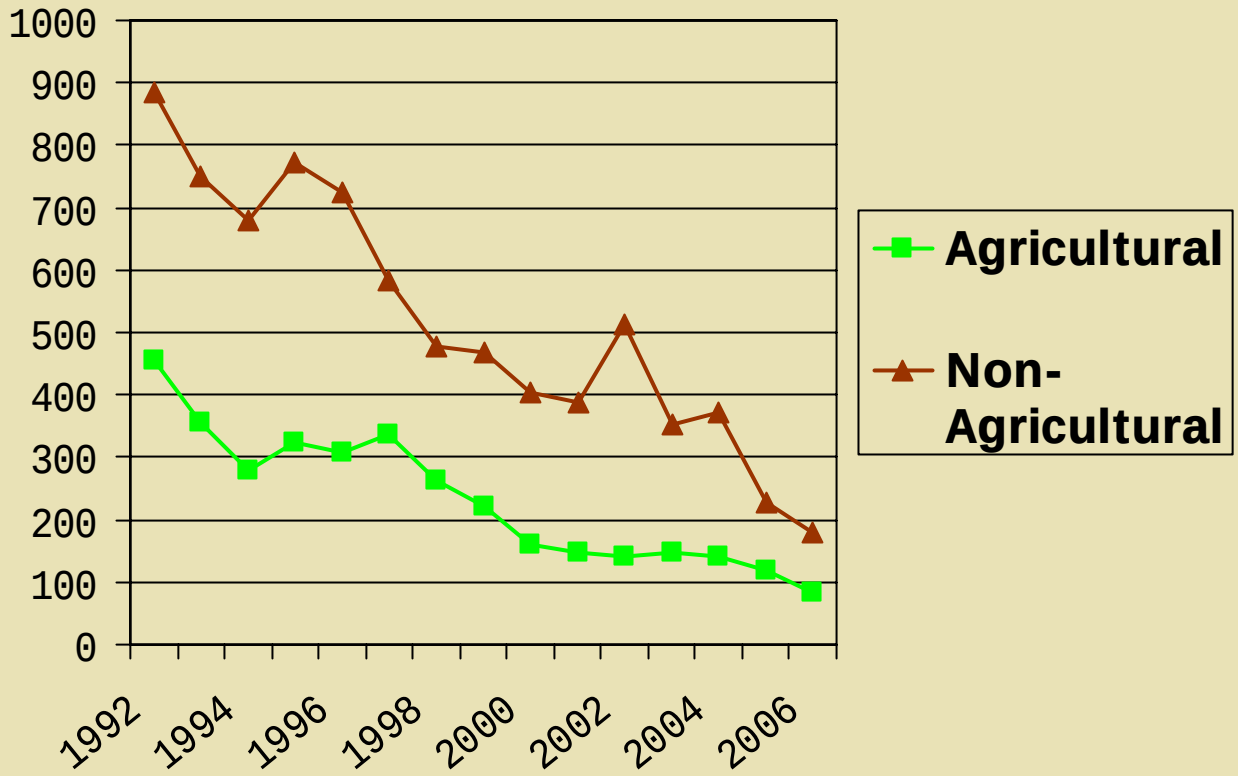

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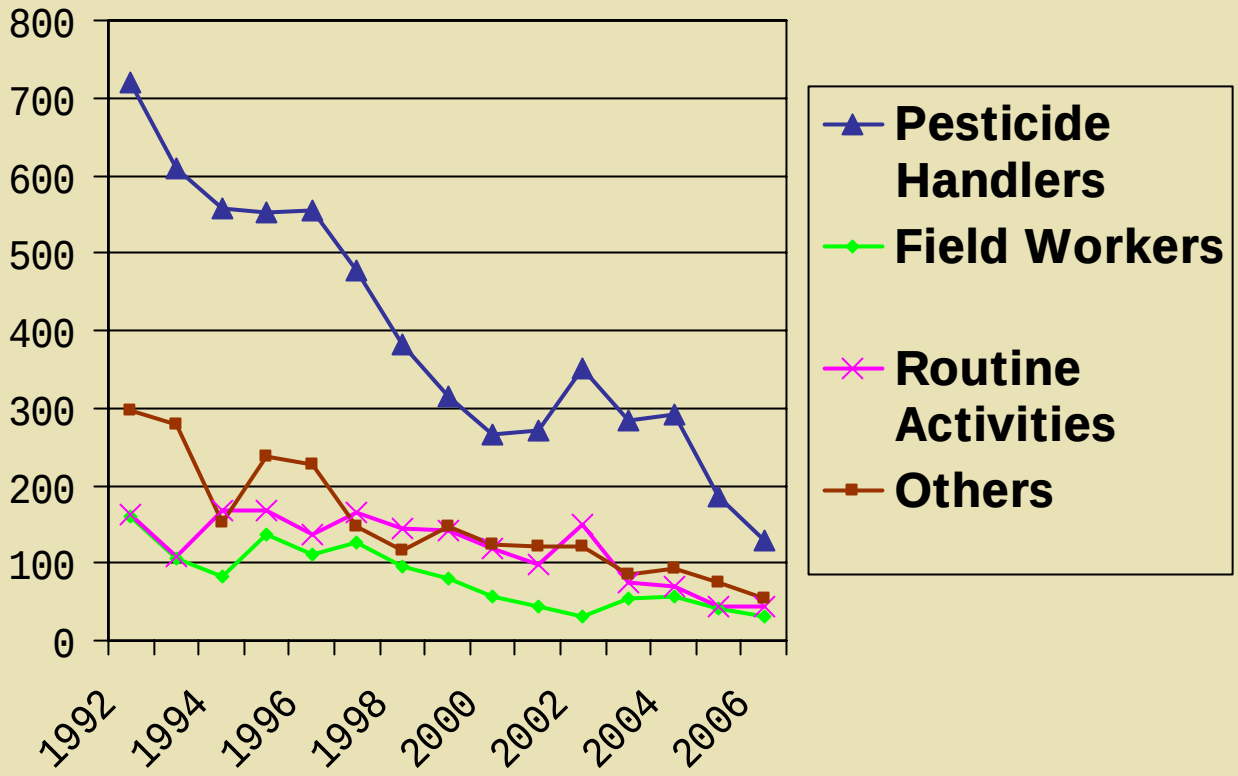
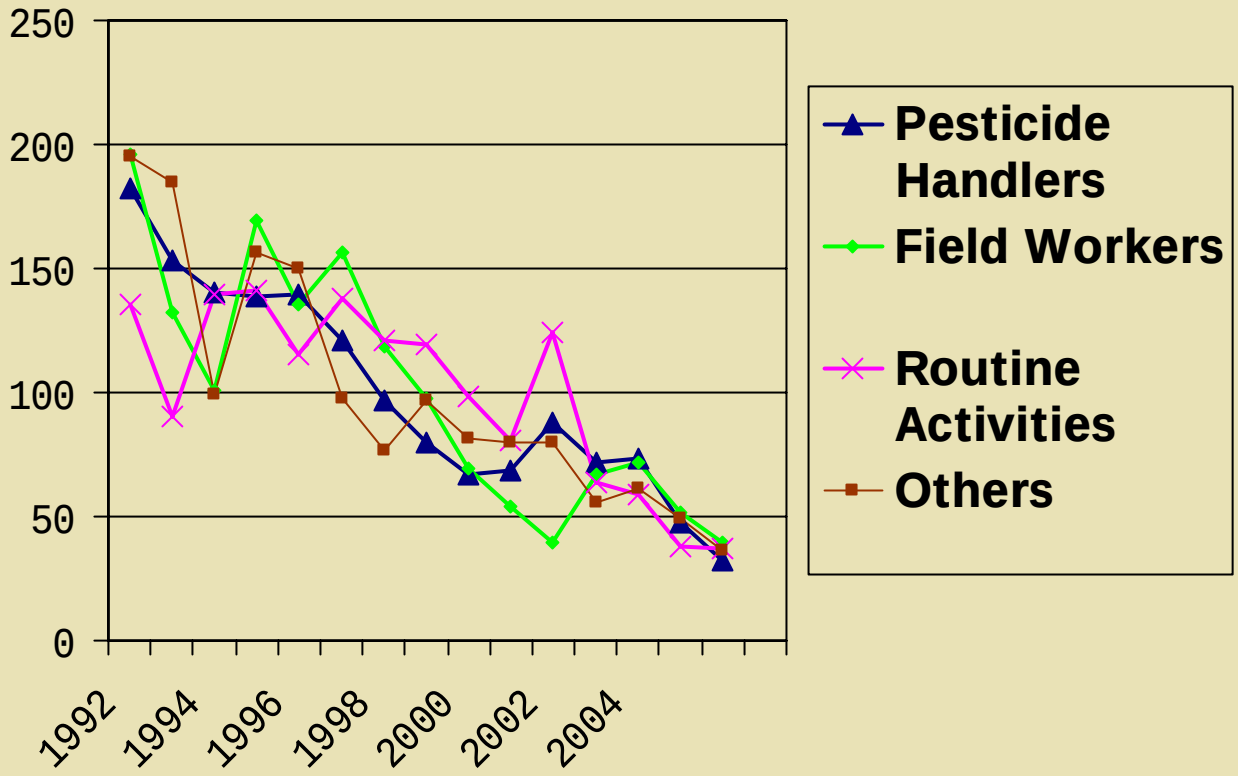


Percentage of Episodes of One or More Definite, Probable or Possible Pesticide Cases, 1992 – 2006



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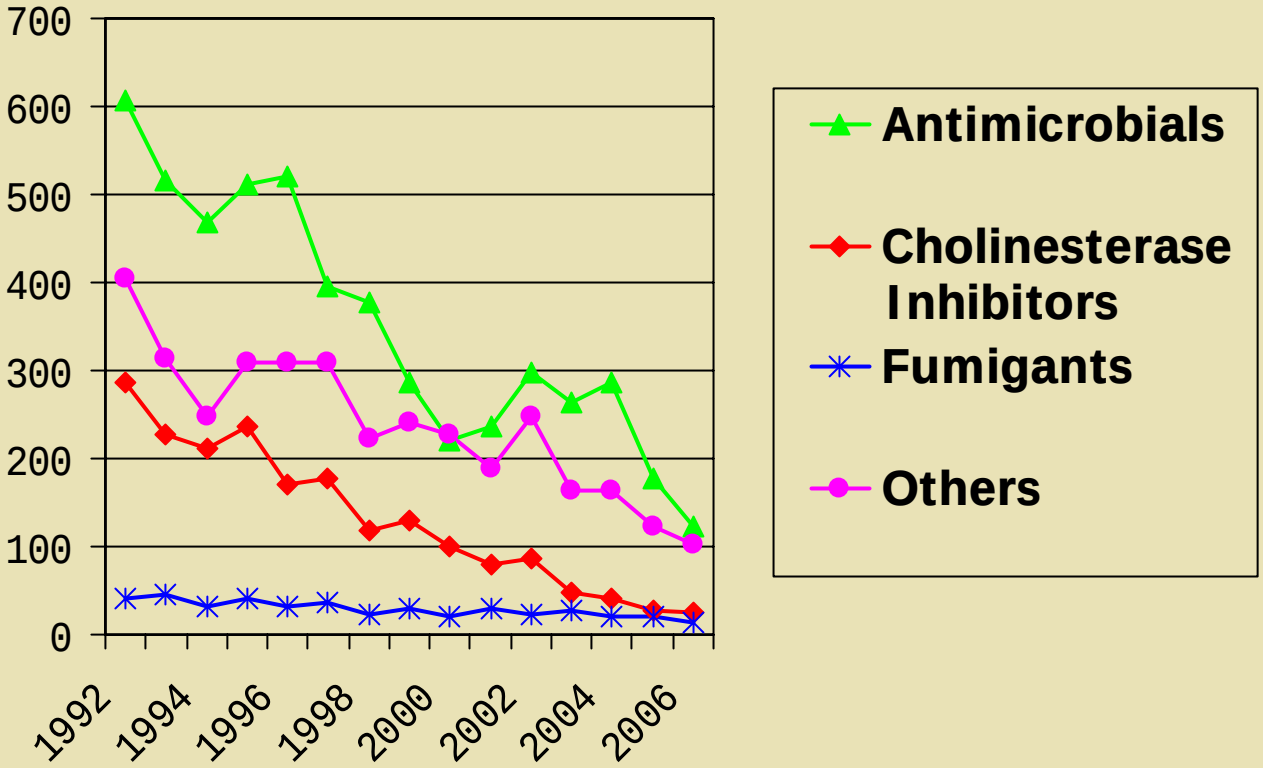
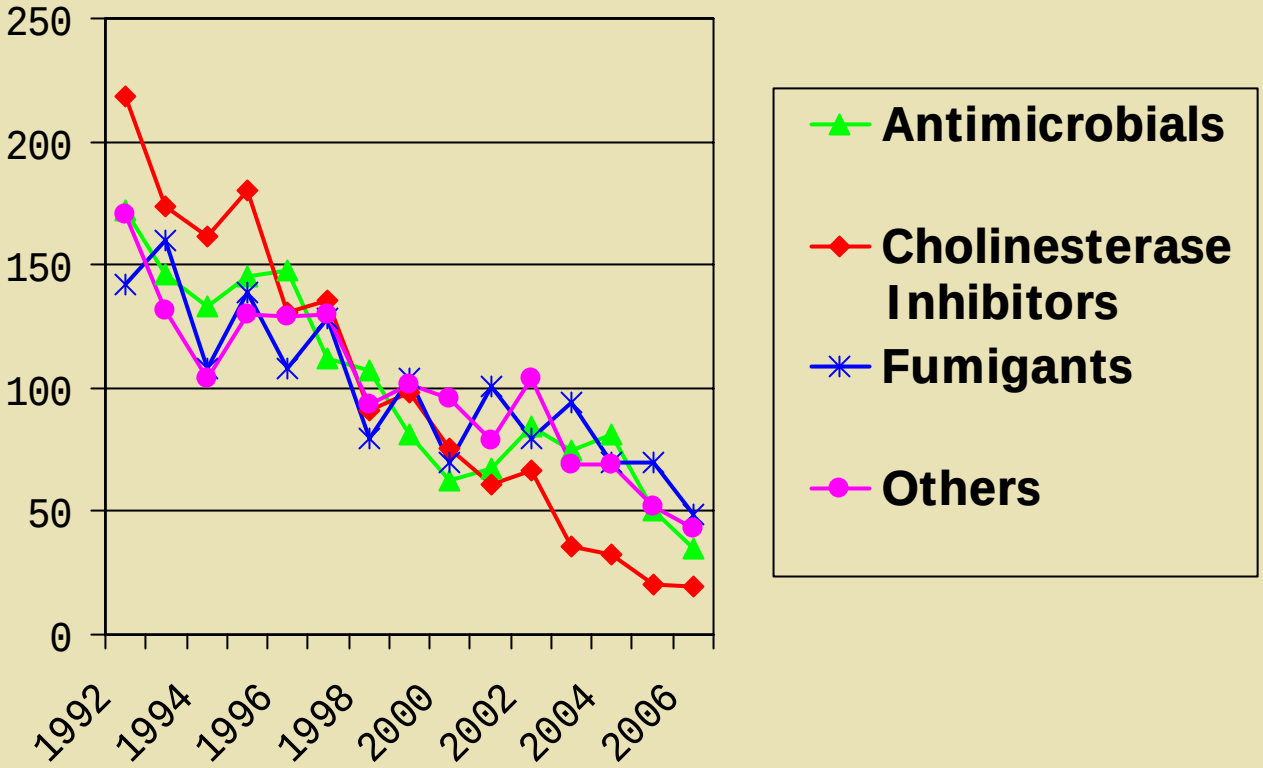
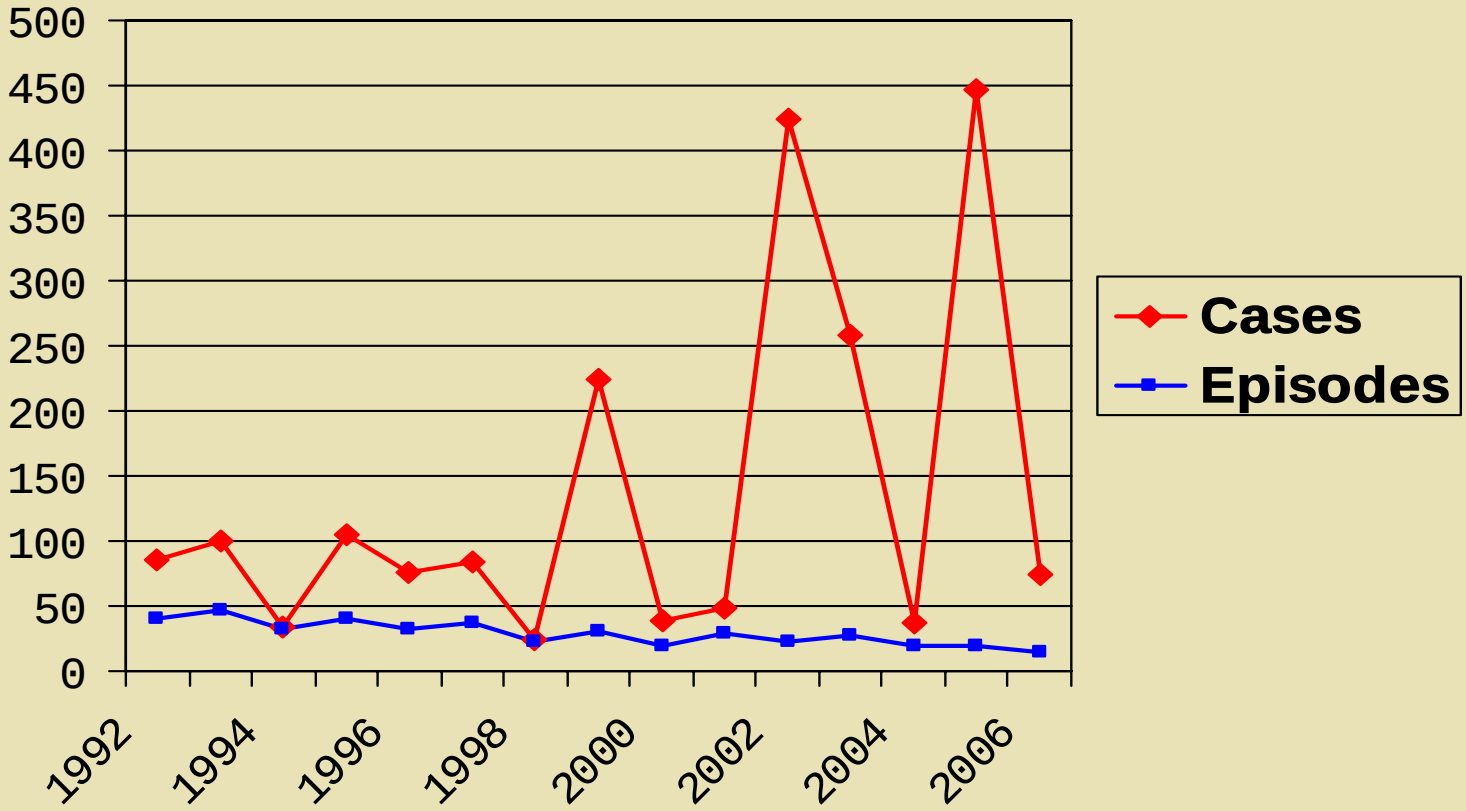


Percentage of Episodes of One or More Definite, Probable or Possible Pesticide Cases, 1992 – 2006



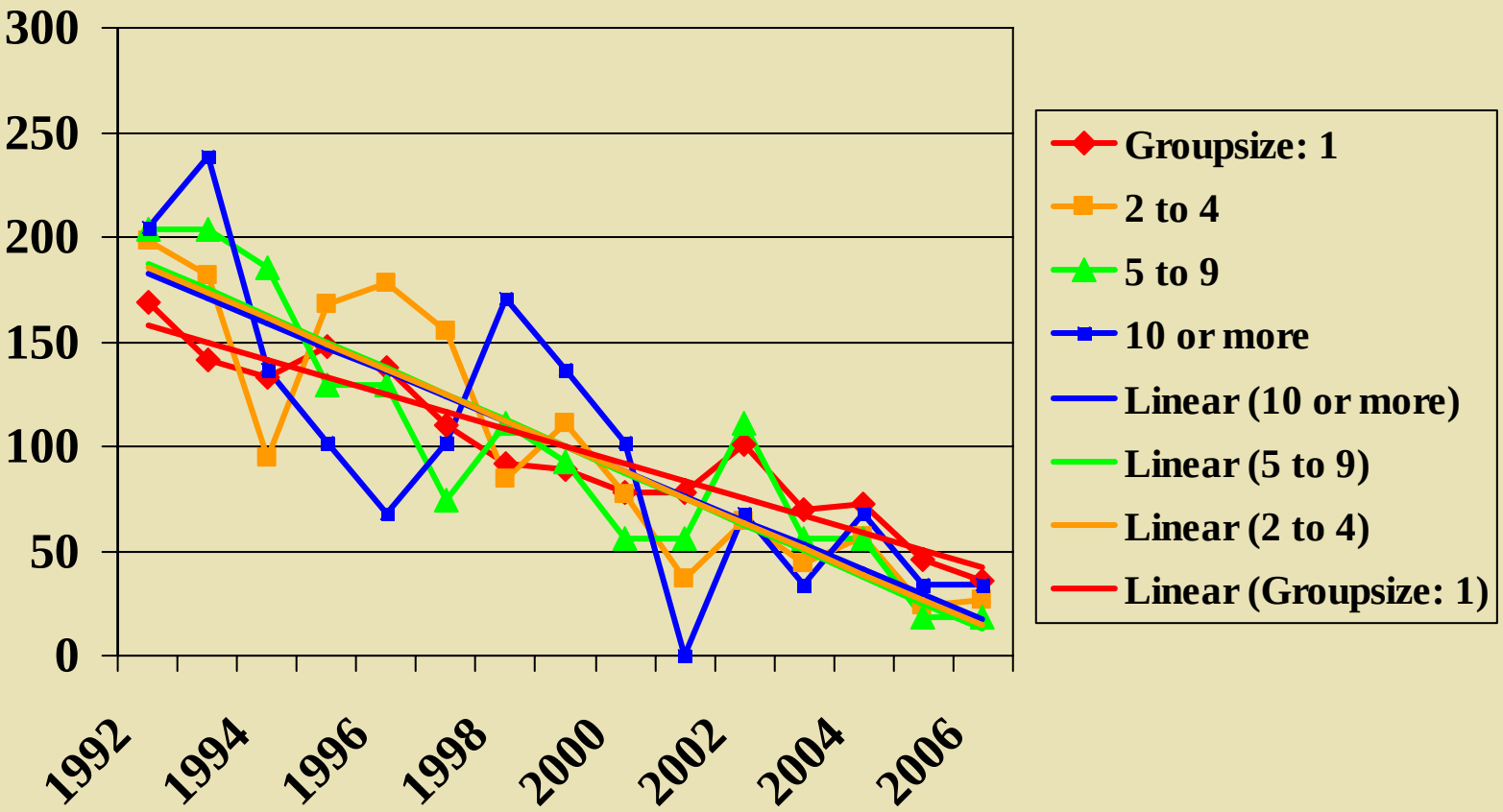
Definite, Probable and Possible Fumigant Cases and Episodes, 1992 - 2006



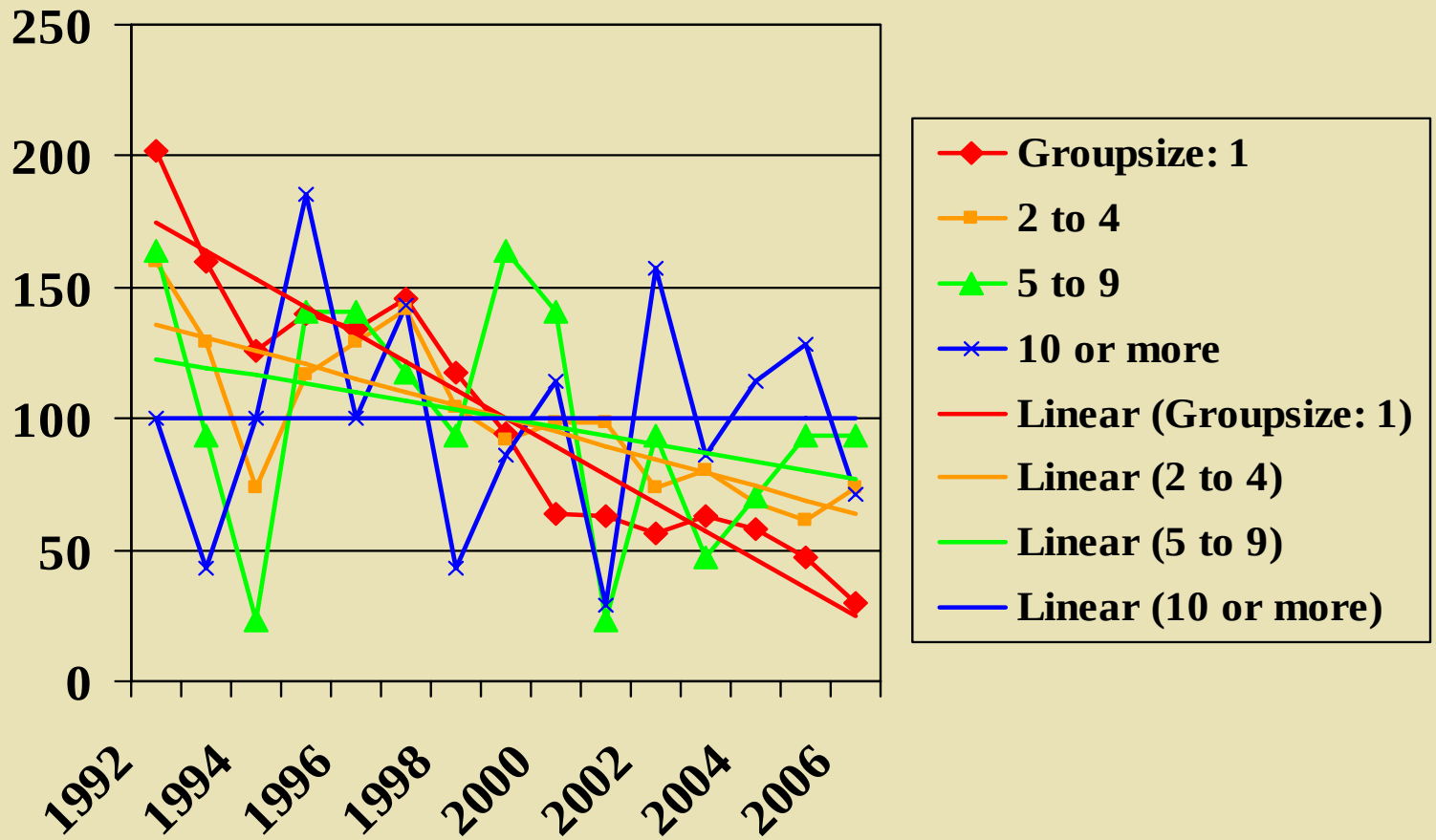
Investigation of Decrease

- Insurer's identities
  - Initially found no change
  - Agricultural case sources did change
- Patterns by group size
  - Large groups seldom stay hidden
  - All sizes decline in parallel among non-ag
  - Ag episodes show suspicious "pinwheel" pattern

Non-Agricultural Episodes (Percentages)



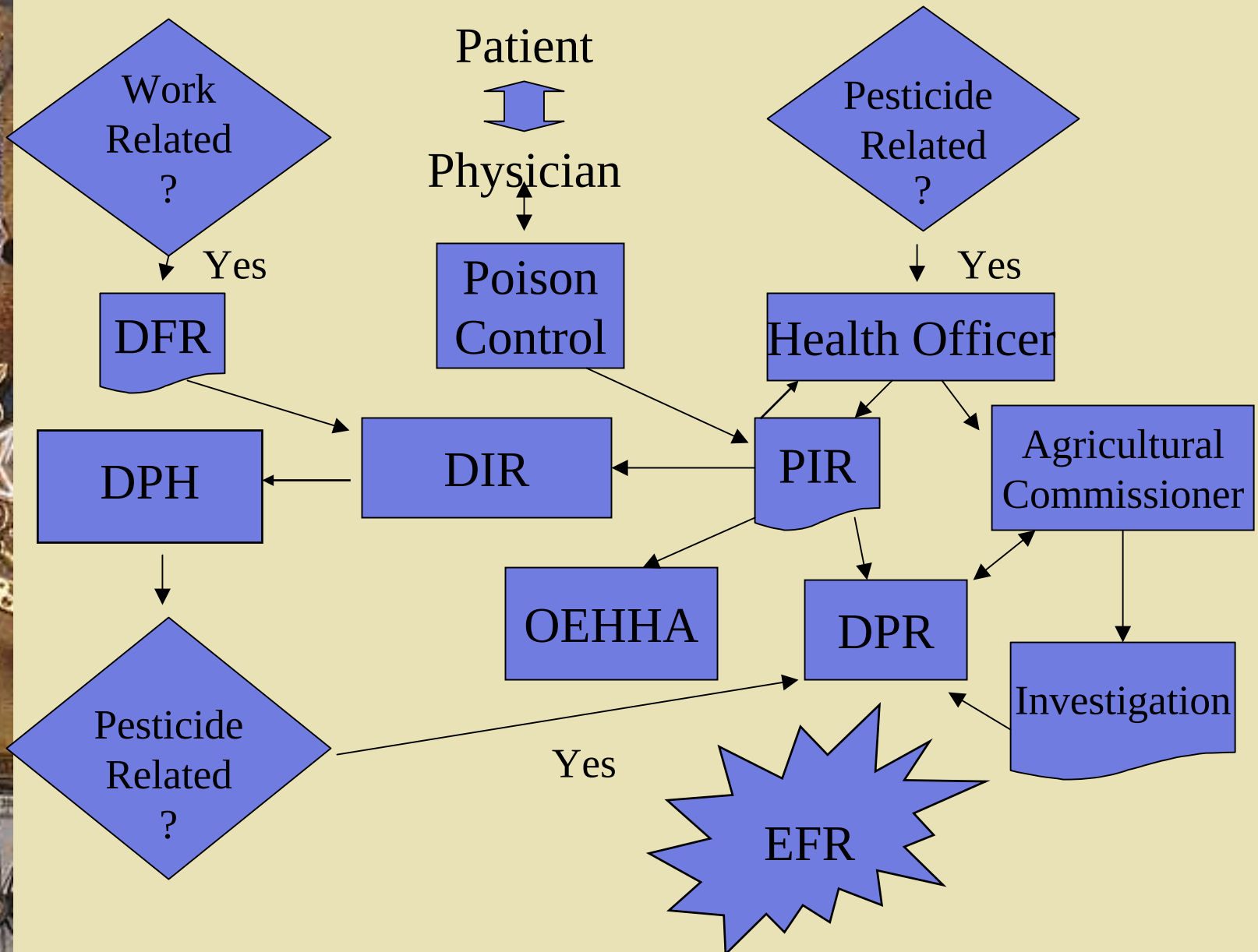
Agricultural Episodes (Percentages)



New Directions

- Outreach
  - To medical service providers
  - To lay workers serving disadvantaged communities

Anticipated Structure and Function



2006 Report Posted

February 29, 2008

http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/currpisp.htm

2006 Report Highlights

- Two large drift episodes onto field workers
- Three fatalities investigated
  - Pesticides ambiguously involved in each
- Four unintentional ingestion episodes

2006 Report Posted

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